

1 AN ACT in relation to children.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Children and Family Services Act is
5 amended by adding Section 35.7 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 505/35.7 new)

7 Sec. 35.7. Report regarding children in out-of-home care.

8 (1) The Department shall report to the Governor and the
9 General Assembly the following information regarding children
10 in out-of-home care who remained in out-of-home care longer
11 than 90 days for at least one placement episode and received
12 "fee for service" medical assistance during fiscal year 2001:

13 (a) The number of children who were prescribed
14 medication during an out-of-home care episode;

15 (b) The medical diagnosis for all children on
16 prescribed medications;

17 (c) The number, types, and frequency of medications
18 prescribed to children;

19 (d) The number of children receiving multiple
20 medications;

21 (e) The number of children prescribed Ritalin; and

22 (f) The total number of children in out-of-home
23 care episodes exceeding 90 days during fiscal year 2001,
24 and the number of those children receiving medication.

25 (2) For purposes of this Section, "medication" means
26 psychotropic medication or other medication prescribed to
27 address psychiatric or other behavioral issues.

28 (3) The Department shall report its findings to the
29 Governor and the General Assembly not later than December 15,
30 2002.

1 Section 10. The Department of Public Health Act is
2 amended by adding Sections 8.5 and 8.6 as follows:

3 (20 ILCS 2305/8.5 new)

4 Sec. 8.5. Advisory Council on Psychotropic Drug Therapy
5 for Children and Adolescents.

6 The Director of Public Health shall appoint an Advisory
7 Council on Psychotropic Drug Therapy for Children and
8 Adolescents. The Council shall have the following powers:

9 (a) to receive information with respect to, and
10 study and analyze, mental illness and serious emotional
11 disturbances affecting children and adolescents;

12 (b) to receive information with respect to, and
13 study and analyze, psychotropic drugs used as treatment
14 for a mental illness or serious emotional disturbance,
15 with particular attention focused on the potential side
16 effects and consequences of abuse, misuse, misdiagnosis,
17 or improper dosage;

18 (c) to address the potential impact of psychotropic
19 drugs on children and adolescents with particular
20 attention focused on the relationship between the use of
21 such drugs and tendencies towards violence or suicide;
22 and

23 (d) to conduct such public hearings as may be
24 necessary to carry out its powers and duties pursuant to
25 this Section.

26 The Council shall submit a written report to the Governor
27 and the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2003,
28 setting forth the findings of the Council on matters within
29 the scope of its powers and duties as set forth in this
30 Section.

31 (20 ILCS 2305/8.6 new)

32 Sec. 8.6. Psychotropic medication; children and

1 adolescents. The Department of Public Health shall keep
2 informed as to current developments regarding the use of
3 psychotropic medication in the treatment of children and
4 adolescents.

5 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
6 becoming law.